

CENTRAL ROAD RESERVE FUND

687. Shri Bheekha Bhal: Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the amount, if any, so far granted to the State of Rajasthan from the Central Road Reserve Fund for the development of roads; and

(b) if not, whether the Central Government received any representation from the State Government for allotting any amount?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Grants aggregating Rs. 2.85 lakhs have been sanctioned and further grants aggregating Rs. 10.50 lakhs offered to the State Government.

(b) Does not arise.

UDAIPUR-HIMMAT NAGAR RAILWAY LINE

688. Shri Bheekha Bhal: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to connect Udaipur to Himmat Nagar or Talod by constructing a new railway line;

(b) whether any representation has been received in this connection; and

(c) if so, the time by which the proposal will materialise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The reply is in the affirmative.

(c) The project has still to be considered by the Central Board of Transport. It is, therefore, too early to say if and when the proposal will materialise.

TICKETLESS TRAVELLING

689. Shri E. Iyank: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether ticketless travelling is on the increase or decrease on the Railways?

(b) What is the estimated loss on account of these passengers in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

(c) What is the amount realised as fine from these travellers in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a)

There has been an increase in the detected number of ticketless travellers owing to more intensive measures adopted to check ticketless travel.

(b) It is not possible to make an accurate estimate of the loss to the Indian Railways on account of ticketless travelling. On a rough appraisal of the position this may, however, be placed at anything between 2 to 3 crores per year. However the Kunzru Committee estimated the loss to be 8 crores a year.

(c) The amount realised as fine from the ticketless travellers in the years 1950-51 and 1951-52 is Rs. 9,32,231 and Rs. 8,58,653 respectively.

FOREST LAND

690. Shri M. Islamuddin: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the acreage under forest in each State of the Indian Union;

(b) the acreage of forest land converted into agricultural land in each of these States since 1947;

(c) the acreage of waste land in each State; and

(d) the acreage of such land reclaimed since 1947 in each State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a), (c) and (d). Three statements giving the available information are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 35.]

(b) Required information is not readily available. It is being collected from the State Governments.

WIRELESS STATION AT UTTAR KASHI

691. Shri Bhakta Darshan: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wireless station at Uttar Kashi in Uttar Pradesh has been closed down; and

(b) if so, what alternative arrangements have been made for catering to the needs of the people of that area?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) The position of telegraph traffic does not justify any permanent arrangement, but the question of having a seasonal wireless office is being examined.